

6 September 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Views of AMEAL-3 on Current Cuban Exile Situation

1. The most logical action for AMCIAR and the one most urgently needed is the selection of a single chairman to replace the rule-by committee that is now employed by AMCIAR.
2. The most obvious choice for chairman is AMEX.
3. Because of the bitter personal differences between AMEX and AMER, the selection of AMEX as chairman could very well bring about the resignation of AMER from AMCIAR. This would not in the least weaken AMCIAR and might in fact strengthen it.
4. The views expressed above are those of AMEAL-3, who made a special trip to the Headquarters area on 1 September to meet Paul J. PAREKH and discuss these matters with him. The meeting lasted from 1630 until 1930 hours in a local hotel room.
5. As AMEAL-3 sees it, the selection of a single chairman would automatically solve several of the current problems of AMCIAR. For example, it would speed the decision-making process. It would force AMEX to work for the common good rather than his own partisan political interests. It would present the uncommitted Cuban exiles with a strong personality around whom they could rally in the traditional Latin pattern.
6. AMEAL-3 paints quite an encouraging picture regarding the Miami office of AMCIAR, but he says the good talent assigned by the majority of AMCIAR to head up the Miami office is being frustrated by the unilateral actions of AMER, who refuses to be bound by decisions which AMCIAR took in his absence. Two good examples are the following:
actually Dr. J. C. Underhill
a. AMCIAR names AMER-1 chose ~~different~~ forces (fma) as head of the Communications Committee. ~~SAVANNAH~~ Vero is a graduate of MIT and an instructor there. He was granted leave without pay by MIT to accept the AMCIAR post. AMEAL-3 has the highest respect for him. However, when AMER-1 returned to Miami he immediately insisted on putting one of his men, CARO (fma), in as head of the Communications Committee. CARO was formerly a part of the ~~own~~ organization of the 50 of July movement. He operated in Cartagena. He is probably well-qualified for the job but he is completely loyal to AMER-1 and was put the choice of AMCIAR for the chairmanship.
(Augustin G. S. 12/1/60)
b. Colonel MARTIN Diaz is an outstanding figure and the best possible choice to head up the military committee. Although he was only issued a written verbal invitation to leave Cuba and join AMCIAR by AMCIAR at the outset, his response was immediate acceptance, to the surprise of AMCIAR. Since his arrival in Miami he has impressed

RETURN TO CIA
Background Use Only
Do Not Reproduce

14-00000

ABMIL-3 and others as a strong leader, honest, dedicated and professionally competent. Once again, however, ABMIL-3 wishes to replace ABMIL with Colonel Oscar DIAZ. A struggle for power is under way between MARTEB Elsen and DIAZ, both to the detriment of ABMIL's military effort.

7. At the instructions of the ABMIL members in Mexico, ABMIL-1 was to arrive in Miami on 11 August to put ABMIL-1 in his place... ABMIL-1 is hopeful that this meeting will have the desired effect. He has promised to provide a private report on the outcome to ABMIL-3.

8. Among the other five members of ABMIL there is good faith. They do not see eye to eye in all matters, but they are willing in the interest of unity to resolve their differences in a civilised manner.

9. In reply to a query concerning Major Raul CHIBAS, ABMIL-3 gave an unfavorable description. He called CHIBAS a person of little moral fiber who has been trying, without success, to form a competing organization headed by himself, ABMIL-1 and ABMIL-2.

03

Raul J. BARBER

Distribution:

Original & 1 - C/MS/B
1 - MI A/TA
1 - COM, DIAZ
1 - [COM, Mexico] (WILSON)

27/163

2/R